

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE **EXAMINING GROUP 1773** 

> PATENT 2185-0382P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Akihiro ICHIGE et al.

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09/442,416

Group:

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REPLY AFTER FINAL UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

MS AF

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 December 11, 2003

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated September 11, 2003, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

This reply includes Amendments to the Specification, List of Claims and Remarks.